



# CITY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

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NEWS RELEASE  
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## *Reading Police Department one of tops globally*

For immediate release – For the second time in a dozen years, the Reading Police Department has been recognized as one of the top law enforcement organizations in the world by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, according to Carl E. Geffken, Managing Director of the City of Reading. “We are very proud of our Police Officers and Police Department”, said Geffken. “This award proves their dedication to their work and the City as well as their high standards.”

The department was named as one of the top 25 programs at the 2011 Webber Seavey Award “Quality in Law Enforcement” awards ceremony held on October 24<sup>th</sup> in Chicago. The award program is jointly sponsored by the IACP and Motorola. The award is presented annually to agencies and departments worldwide in recognition for promoting a standard of excellence exemplifying law enforcement’s contribution to the quality of life in local communities. It is named in honor of Webber S. Seavey, first president of the IACP.

“As some of you may recall, we actually took the top spot for this prestigious award in 1999,” said Reading Police Chief William M. Heim. “For an agency of our size to be recognized once more is excellent.”

The chief said the 2011 award is in recognition of the deployment strategies and reductions in crime members of the force have helped achieve over the past five years by innovation, diligence, collaboration, and excellent police work.

“We are the only Pennsylvania police agency to get recognized this year,” said Heim. “We are also the only Pennsylvania agency to have ever won the award.”

The Webber Seavey award program helps law enforcement agencies worldwide and the communities they serve by redefining the concept of law enforcement and how it is routinely performed. The award is named for Webber S. Seavey, the IACP’s first president.

The program annually honors achievements in one or more of the following goals:

- \* Continually improving services to the community;
- \* Strengthening police relations and promoting community participation;
- \* Effectively using resources;
- \* Enhancing communications within and cooperation among agencies;
- \* Developing creative and innovative approaches that promote excellence in law enforcement.

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